

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Replace the paragraph at page 9, beginning at line 27, with the following amended paragraph:

Following this operation, a right child ~~305~~ 304, if any, of the removed tag 303 may be elevated to the vacant spot. The min-tree 301 may be a tree of the smallest nodes of each tree among the set of trees 310 eligible for scheduling. The parent node or the right-child node, if any, may then become the smallest node in the corresponding tree. As such, the parent node may be added to the min-tree 301 as representing the smallest tag in the corresponding tree. A vestigial tag may not have a tree structure other than the min-tree. Thus a vestigial tag, if it is the one that is removed, may not be replaced with a corresponding tree tag. The generic name for a tag that has-been a part of a tree at, or within T, and steps past the current-tree pointer 363 is post-current tag. This may include tags that have become vestigial tags, e.g. smallest tag 313. A tree is said to be post-current if the tree is at or within T-steps past the current-tree pointer. Note a post-current tag may not necessarily be a in a post-current tree.